

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2016 5:30 P.M.

The meeting was opened by announcing that this was an open meeting of the Common Council. Notice of this meeting was given to the public at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by forwarding the complete agenda to the official City newspaper, the New Richmond News, and to all news media who have requested the same as well as posting. Copies of the complete agenda were available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the City Clerk's office.

Roll call was taken.

Members Present: Mayor Horne, Alderman Jackson, Ard, Kittel, Montello, Volkert, and Zajkowski

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Alderman Montello moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

2017 Budget Update

City Council members reviewed the budget page by page. Considerable discussion followed. Alderman Montello moved to proceed with posting the notice for the Budget Hearing, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

Uncollected Delinquent Tax Roll

Rae Ann Ailts explained that St Croix County placed several properties on tax deed including several lots in Fox Run and Whispering Prairie developments, 8 lots in Paperjack Creek Townhome Community, 7 lots in Peninsula Heights, and two other properties in the City totaling \$31,999.98. The City had placed this amount on tax roll for charges associated with noxious weeds, delinquent water charges and sewer assessments. Staff deems the amount of \$31,999.98 as uncollectible and recommends council approval for write off for fiscal year 2016. The City portion of uncollectible assessments is \$14,720.54 and the Utility portion is \$17,279.44. Alderman Montello moved to write this amount off as uncollected, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Municipal Court/Police Department Fees

There was considerable discussion regarding the current and proposed court fees. Alderman Volkert questioned the reasoning behind the increase in fees. Alderman Montello moved to approve the Municipal Court Fees as proposed, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried. Discussion followed. Alderman Montello moved to call the question, seconded by Alderman Ard. Motion carried with Alderman Volkert and Jackson voting no. On voting on the main motion, motion carried with Alderman Volkert and Jackson voting no.

Closed Session per Statute 19.85 (1)(c)(e)

Alderman Ard moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – Non-Union Wages and State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) conducting specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session. Motion seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

Open Session

Alderman Montello moved to approve Option #4 with an additional recommendation as discussed in closed session, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Communications & Miscellaneous

Craig Kittel wished Alderman Ard good luck in the election for assembly.

Alderman Ard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Tanya Batchelor
City Clerk